NISHAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Polythene bags are not bio-degradable and therefore their, improper disposal causes environmental problems.

(b) As per information received from the Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, the Bharat Vikas Parishad, Manali Town have made efforts in replacing the polythene bags by paper and jute bags through public awareness campaigns.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Allocation to Madhya Pradesh from Calamity Relief Fund

588. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tenth Finance Commission has made any recommendation for the allocation funds to Madhya Pradesh from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what is the ratio of the Central and State Governments' contribution in this regard;

(d) whether the allocation is sufficient to provide relief to the victims of natural calamities in the State; and

(e) if not, what remedial action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The Tenth Finance Commission had made the following allocations of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to Madhya Pradesh :-

Year	Allocation (Rs. in crores)
1995-96	48.21
1996-97	51.08
1997-98	53.89
1998-99	56.65
1999-2000	59.05
Total :	Rs. 268.88

(c) The annual allocation of CRF is shared in the ratio of 3:1 by the Central and the State Governments.

(d) and (e) The Tenth Finance Commission has made the annual allocations of CRF taking into account the average of the aggregatge of ceilings of expenditure on natural calamities for the years 1983-84 to 1989-90 and the amount of CRF for the years 1990-91 to 1992-93. This has also been adjusted for inflation. As such the annual CRF allocations are adequate to take care of the requirements of relief and rehabilitation in the wake of natural calamities. However, if any serious hardship is there it should be brought to the notice of Central Government.

Decline in Kendriya Vidyalaya Results

589. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a gradual decline in the results of the Kendriya Vidyalaya in the CBSE examinations during the preceding three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for raising the educational standard of Kendriya Vidyalaya?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the pass percentage of Kendriya Vidyalayas as a whole continues to be higher than that of the CBSE.

(b) The factors responsible include change in examination pattern, financial and administrative constraints.

(c) Special efforts are on to improve the quality of education in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan through better supervision of academic activities, streamlining of recruitment procedure of teachers, establishment of Zonal Training Institutes for systematic in-service